PARABLES.

1. The Laborers in the Vineyard.
   Motive of the Workers in the Kingdom of God. Matt. 19:30-20:16

2. Parable of the Sower Matt. 13:4-23

3. The Unprofitable Servant. Matt. 25.

The Parable of the Sower

Matt 13 4-23

TEXT:-Matt.13:4-23. The Parable of the Sower.

THEME:-The Planting of the Kingdom in Human Soil.

INTRO:-The Circumstances which suggested this Parable to our Lord's Mind.

The chapter of Matthew in which the Parable of the Sower is found opens with the words,"On that day went Jesus out of the house and sat by the seaside." "That day" had been a most trying one for Jesus. It caused Him to reflect upon His public ministry since its beginning in Judea before John the Baptist was put in prison. Whereas the multitudes ever increased to hear Him, to be fed of Him, and to have their afflicted healed by Him, there had been from the start a growing opposition to Him which caused Him to leave Judea and enter Galilee. In Galilee Jesus had now been for some length of time. Going about from city to city and thru the country districts the Master labored with the people to establish the Kingdom of God in their midst. He had taught them in their synagogues and with such authority that all marveled at His words. They had brot to him their sick and He had healed them all. But to His first and fundamental teaching they paid no attention whatever. "Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand" they either could not or would not understand. As a result the cities turned not from the evil of their way and Christ had to upraid them most severely. The Pharisees were becoming more bold in their antagonism, already seeking how to put Him to death. Because Jesus healed a demoniac on the Sabbath day they had accused Him of being in league with Beelzebub, the prince of devils. And when the Master put their baseuthots to route, the Scribes and Pharisees demanded a sign of Him. And on this same day in question, while He was yet speaking to the multitudes on the inside, news was brot to him that His mother and brethren were on the outside seeking after Him, for they believed that He was demented. And Jesus made answer, "Behold', stretching forth His hands to His disciples,'my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father who is in Heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother."

The day had been a most trying one indeed. The burden that rested on His heart with well nigh crushing weight drove Him to seek solitude along the shore of sea. Yet not for long for the multitudes again sought Him and surrounded Him for another hearing of His words. So great was the croud tha that He entered a boat while the people stood at the water's edge. What an encouragement to the speaker to have